

**Remarks**

The above preliminary amendment is made to cancel claim 26.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

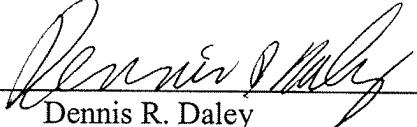
The United States Patent and Trademark Office is informed of the existence of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/566,680 based upon International Application No. PCT FI2004/00456 that was filed on July 16, 2004. A copy of International Publication No. WO 2005/014472 is enclosed. It is submitted that the claims of the above-identified patent application and the claims of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/566,680 are patentably distinct.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Dennis R. Daley (Reg. No. 34,994), at (612) 336.4689.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: October 23, 2007

By   
Dennis R. Daley  
Reg. 34,994

DRD:elr:mls

